

6) LABOR CREATES WEB SITE FOR NATIONAL GUARDSMEN, RESERVISTS TO FILE EMPLOYMENT COMPLAINTS

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Department of Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao announced Wednesday her department's new service for aiding National Guards' and reservists' return to their places of employment and benefit retention they are entitled as detailed in the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

The Department has created a Web site where a USERRA or veterans' preference complaint can be filed electronically at:

<https://vets1010.dol.gov/Login.aspx?ReturnURL=%2fDefault.aspx>

"America's soldiers who sacrifice so much for all of us, deserve every consideration and legal protection in returning to civilian life and careers," Chao said. "This new online form will make it easier for National Guard and Reserve servicemembers to alert us to any job-related problems they may encounter because of their service to our country."

Veterans' Employment and Training Service created the new service, which is named VETS Form 1010.

"Over the past year, the Department of Labor has taken aggressive steps to inform everyone in the work place of USERRA requirements. The new online method for filing employment rights complaints is another major step forward and augments ESGR [National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve] efforts to resolve employee/employer reserve participation [and] employment/re-employment issues informally," the National Chairman for ESGR David Janes said.

USERRA prohibits discrimination against persons because of their service in the Armed Forces Reserve, the National Guard or other uniformed services. The Act prohibits an employer from denying any employment benefit based on an individual's membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service or obligation for service in the uniformed services.

USERRA also protects the right of veterans, reservists, National Guard members and certain other members of the uniformed services to reclaim their civilian employment after being absent due to military service or training.

For more information on USERRA, visit:

<http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/>.